

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed February 26, 1999. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). Applicant has amended claims 1-20 and canceled claims 21-24. Reconsideration in light of the amendments and remarks made herein is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,523,902 issued to Pederson ("Pederson") and U.S. Patent No. 5,600,506 issued to Baum et al. ("Baum").

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 10 to recite a disk having a plurality of tracks, each track including at least one group of sectors. Each sector within the group includes a first field and a second field, the first field in each sector identifying a value in the corresponding second field, and each value in the second field of each sector providing a portion of position information. The values in the second fields within the group of sectors, in combination, providing the position information. Applicant has also amended claim 17 to recite a method which includes providing a disk having at least one side with a plurality of tracks, each of which includes at least one group of sectors. Each sector within the group including a first field and a second field, the first field in each sector identifying a value in the corresponding second field, and each value in the second field of each sector providing a portion of position information. The method further includes reading the first and second fields in the group of sectors, and determining position information of the disk in response to reading the first and second fields in the group of sectors.

Pederson relates to a disk drive system for removing read/write head offset caused by magnetic distortion. Figure 5 shows a plurality of tracks (e.g., calibration tracks 52 and 53) each having a plurality of sectors (N, N+1, etc.). For example, calibration track 52 includes "A", "B", "C", and "D" servo patterns which are used to detect the track centerline. They are not used to determine track position information such as, the quadrant, side, and track position of a disk, as recited in the claims of the present invention. An alternating "A/B" servo burst pattern is used for measuring and compensating for offset of the track centerline due to differential magnetic influence to the servo pattern. Thus, each sector includes the alternating "A" and "B", and "C" and "D" servo burst patterns for determining the centerline of the track for that sector. The burst patterns from one sector (e.g., sector N) to another sector (e.g., sector N+1) are independent of each other.

Baum relates to a method and apparatus for determining the position of a transducer with reference to the surface of a disk in a disk drive system. The position of the transducer is established from a fixed reference point in a gray scale band located in the preamble area of each sector. That is, the position of the transducer is determined by reading bursts in each sector.

Applicant submits that the amendments to the claims overcome the § 102(e) rejections because Pederson and Baum, taken alone or in combination, fail to disclose, teach, or suggest the claim element "each sector having first and second fields, where the first field identifies a value in the corresponding second field, and each value in the second field of each sector providing a portion of position information." The method and apparatus of the present invention provides position information of a disk, while reducing media space. The saved media space may then be used for storage of data, thereby maximizing the data storage area of the

disk. Accordingly, it is submitted that the claims are patentably distinct from the cited art references and allowance thereof is respectfully solicited.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks made above, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on: April 27, 1999.

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04/27/99

Date